

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 22, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders Schumer, McConnell, and McCarthy,

I write to express my concern regarding the treatment of thousands of National Guardsmen at U.S. Capitol Complex facilities on January 21, 2021.

The National Guard has been essential to securing the Capitol Complex following the events of January 6, 2021, and ensuring the safety of the Presidential Inauguration. Nearly 26,000 Guardsmen dutifully helped guarantee the peaceful transfer of power during this difficult time.

I am appalled by the decision to order the Guardsmen to vacate Capitol office buildings and move their rest area to an active parking garage. Guardsmen unnecessarily faced conditions that included cold temperatures, no internet service, limited restroom access, an enclosed space with vehicles driving through the facility, and cramped quarters during a pandemic. While servicemembers often have to endure difficult conditions during deployment, it is a disgrace that Congress failed to provide adequate shelter and accommodations to the Guardsmen protecting the Capitol and the Republic.

I offer my assistance to immediately investigate the unwarranted treatment of the Guardsmen and discover answers to the following questions:

- Who issued the order and upon what authority?
- What steps are necessary to ensure that Guardsmen receive proper accommodations for the remainder of the deployment?
- What steps are necessary to ensure that a similar circumstances does not reoccur?

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress